

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Status of the Claims.

Claims 1, 3-5, 11-15-34-40, 43-44, and 53 are pending with entry of this amendment, claims 6-10, 41 and 42 being cancelled herein. Cancellation of these claims is without prejudice, without intent to abandon any originally-claimed subject matter, and without intent to acquiesce in any rejection of record. Applicants expressly reserve the right to file one or more continuing applications containing these cancelled claims.

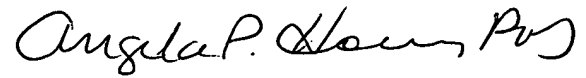
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If there are any further issues outstanding in this application, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned at (510) 337-7871 to discuss.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

- 1) A transmittal sheet; and
- 2) A receipt indication postcard.